HISTORIC WATERWAYS OF OLD VIRGINIA

Ever since our earliest beginnings the inland waterways of Virginia have played a powerful role in the history of the commonwealth and the nation. For a considerable period our rivers and canals were the dominant means of our transport, contributing mightily to the westward march of settlement while serving as an essential link with the coastal region, preserving national unity during the critical period of our country's growth. Now largely supplanted by the roads and railroads we use today, our waterways still figure prominently in the state's resources, and their value for recreation and park development grows yearly.

The realization of Virginia's extensive canal and navigation system was brought about through the vision, genius and faith of some of the most remarkable men of the age, including, not surprisingly, George Washington, who was president of both the Potomac and James River navigation companies. Unhappily their creations have largely become the victims of neglect and public apathy, although here and there a canal park, trial, or scenic river has demonstrated the value of the old works as unique eye-pleasing amenities and genuine historical memorials to our ancestors' ingenuity and industry.

We salute and encourage the work of individuals, Scout troops, garden clubs, local communities and others active in the promotion, creation and maintenance of existing and future canal parks in the Virginias.

THE VIRGINIA CANALS AND NAVIGATIONS SOCIETY

The Virginia Canals and Navigations Society was formed in 1977 to preserve and enhance Virginia's rich inland waterways heritage in all its fascinating aspects. History, exploration, archaeology, modeling, local lore and legend, restoration, preservation, park and trail development—these are some of the many areas of interest our members pursue, to their own great satisfaction and frequently to the lasting benefit of their communities and state. The society is increasingly active as a focus for waterways interest, and a collective voice of all those who are concerned about the future of this priceless part of our past.

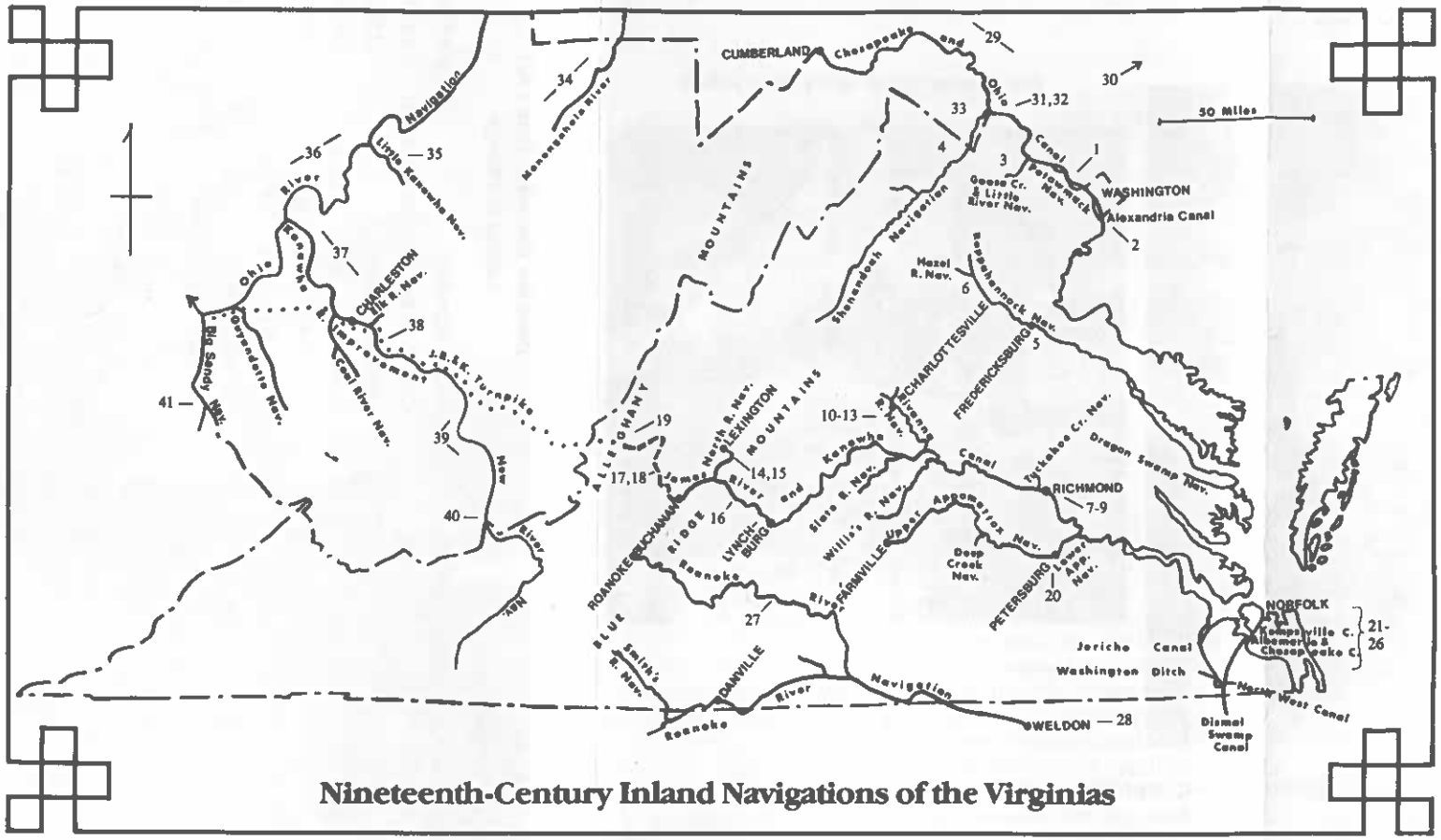
The Society became organized in 1980 with a constitution, by-laws, elected trustees and officials. In 1982 it was chartered by the State as a non-stock corporation and approved by the federal Government as a non-profit organization eligible to receive tax-deductible grants, gifts, land rights and dues, and to utilize preferential postal rates. The Board of Trustees has fiduciary responsibilities for accessions other than dues. The staff of officials conducts operational affairs and produces *The Tiller*. Local chapters monitor canal and river navigation sites and cooperate locally to accomplish the society's objectives.

Members of the Society receive the illustrated quarterly *The Tiller* and other items of special interest: the opportunity to enjoy the company of others

at society and local chapter meetings and field trips; and the chance to work together to make our world a better place in which to live

Canal Parks and Scenic Rivers in Virginia

Lock #1 on the Patowmack Canal, Great Falls, VA



Nineteenth-Century Inland Navigations of the Virginias

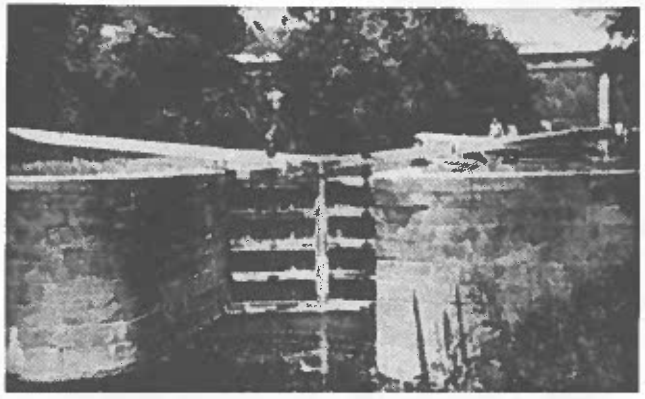
CANAL PARKS IN VIRGINIA

1. GREAT FALLS PARK, VIRGINIA, 4 miles W of the Beltway on VA 193. Interpretive center; films; displays; VC&NS-guided tour Saturdays 11 AM of George Washington's original Patowmack Canal and Locks around Great Falls. (National Park Service 703-285-2966)

2. ALEXANDRIA CANAL TIDE LOCK PARK, at Canal Center, between 1st and Montgomery Streets on the Alexandria waterfront. Lock restoration museum.

3. GOOSE CREEK STATE SCENIC RIVER, past dam sites and locks of the Goose Creek and Little River Navigation in Loudoun County. Canoeing. (Commonwealth of Virginia)*

4. SHENANDOAH STATE SCENIC RIVER, 15 miles in Clarke County along the route of the Shenandoah Navigation. Canoeing. (Commonwealth of Virginia)*



Battery Creek Lock restoration on the Blue Ridge Parkway

CANAL PARKS IN WASHINGTON AND MARYLAND

29. CHESAPEAKE & OHIO CANAL NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK, 184½ miles of canal park from D.C. to Cumberland MD, including boat trips in Georgetown and at the Great Falls (MD) Tavern visitors center; camping areas; many other amenities too numerous to list here. (National Park Service, 301-299-2026 and 472-4376)

30. SUSQUEHANNA MUSEUM OF HAVRE DE GRACE. Lock and Lock House museum at the mouth of the Susquehanna and Tidewater Canal. (P.O. Box 253, Havre de Grace MD 21078)

CANAL PARKS IN WEST VIRGINIA

31. ARMORY CANAL and guard lock along the Potomac in Harper's Ferry National Historical Park. (National Park Service)

32. SHENANDOAH CANAL and McDowell St. Locks site at Virginius Island in Harper's Ferry National Historical Park. (National Park Service)

33. NEWCOMER'S LOCK and hauling path along Little's Falls on the Shenandoah Navigation, in a park 5 miles S of Harper's Ferry on Rt. 27. (Potomac Edison Power Company)

34. MONONGAHELA RIVER NAVIGATION, operating system with locks at Morgantown, Hildebrand and Opeliska in WV, and others in PA. (Corps of Engineers)

35. LITTLE KANAWHA RIVER NAVIGATION. Parks at Leachtown and Elizabeth Locks. (WV Department of Natural Resources)

36. OHIO RIVER NAVIGATION, operating system with 7 locks and dams along the WV border. (Corps of Engineers)

37. KANAWHA RIVER NAVIGATION, operating system with locks at Winfield, Marmet and London. (Corps of Engineers)

fishing. (City of Fredericksburg)

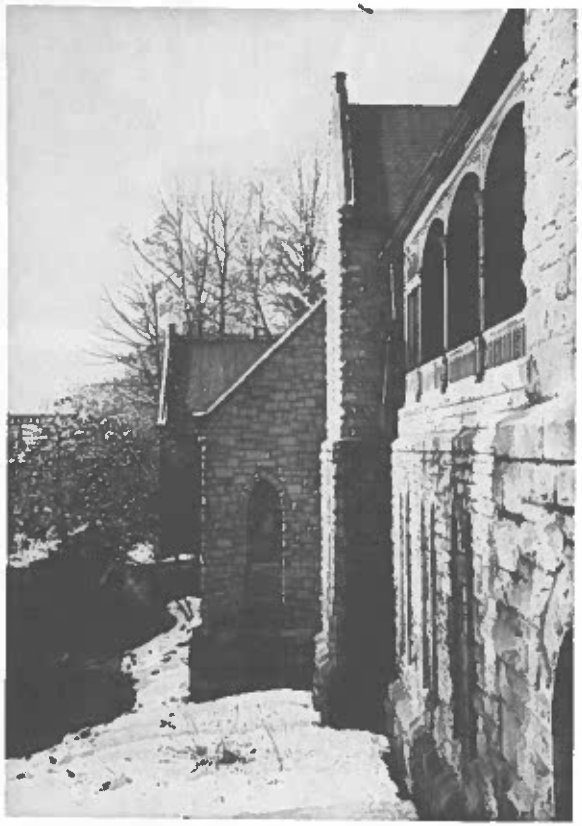
6. RAPPAHANNOCK STATE SCENIC RIVER, 64 miles along the Faquier County line, beside works of the Rappahannock Navigation. Canoeing. (Commonwealth of Virginia)

7. GREAT SHIP LOCK PARK, foot of Pear (27th) Street off Dock Street, Richmond. Display; recently operating stone lock at tidewater. (City of Richmond)

8. TIDEWATER CONNECTION LOCKS PARK, 12th & Byrd Streets, Richmond. Self-guided tour; audio and slide programs; displays; James River historical markers nearby. (Reynolds Metals Company)

9. OLD DOMINION RAILWAY TRANSPORTATION MUSEUM, 102 Hull St., Richmond. Canal & RV research library and exhibits. (Old Dominion Chapter, National Railway Historical Society.

10. RIVANNA STATE SCENIC RIVER, 25 miles through Fluvanna County past the dam sites and locks of the Rivanna Navigation. Canoeing. (Commonwealth of Virginia)*



A future canal park: Richmond's Three-Mile Locks and Byrd Park Pumphouse

11. UNION MILLS CANAL TOWPATH TRAIL, 1/4 miles from W. end of Rt. 600 bridge down to Rivanna Navigation locks. (Community of Lake Monticello)

12. CROFTON LOCK. Remains of early Rivanna Navigation bateau lock visible at low water under E. end of Rt. 600 bridge. Undeveloped. (Va. Game & Inland Fisheries Commission & Department of Highways and Transportation)

13. PALMYRA LOCK, near U.S. 15 on bridge over the Rivanna Navigation at Palmyra. Undeveloped. (Local)

14. CHESSIE NATURE TRAIL, 7 miles along the N bank of the Maury from Lexington and Buena Vista past dam sites and locks of the North River Navigation. Hiking, jogging. (Virginia Military Institute)

15. BEN SALEM LOCK WAYSIDE, on US 60 between Lexington and Buena Vista. Picnicking. Well-preserved lock of North River Navigation. (Va. Department of Highways and Transportation)

16. BATTERY CREEK LOCK RESTORATION, on Blue Ridge Parkway at James River. Displays; fully restored James River & Kanawha Canal lock. (National Park Service)

17. UPPER JAMES STATE SCENIC RIVER, 14 miles in Botetourt County through bateau sluices and beside structures from the JR&K unfinished division. Canoeing. (Commonwealth of Virginia)*

18. EAGLE ROCK LOCK PARK & plaque at westernmost lock on the James River & Kanawha Canal, at Eagle Rock, Botetourt County. (Eagle Rock Garden Club)

19. HUMPBACK BRIDGE WAYSIDE PARK, 4 miles W of Covington on I-64. Covered bridge on the JR&K Turnpike built by the James River & Kanawha Company. (Wv. Department of Highways & Transportation)

20. UPPER APPOMATTOX CANAL, 2-mile watered section and towpath in Appomattox Riverside Park opposite Matoaca. Jogging. (City of Petersburg)

21. DISMAL SWAMP CANAL, operating system paralleling U.S. 17, with locks at Deep Creek, Va. and South Mills, N.C. (Corps of Engineers)

22. DEEP CREEK LOCK PARK on Dismal Swamp Canal. Picnicking. (City of Chesapeake)

23. GREAT DISMAL SWAMP BOAT TOURS up the Dismal Swamp Canal feeder from Wallaceton to Lake Drummond.

24. GREAT DISMAL SWAMP NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE, guided and self-guided tours by foot or boat along some of the 158 mles of navigation and drainage canals in the swamp. (U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service)

25. ALBEMARLE AND CHESAPEAKE CANAL, operating system with lock at Great Bridge. (Corps of Engineers)

26. GREAT BRIDGE LOCK PARK, (Albemarle & Chesapeake Canal. Picnicking. (City of Chesapeake)

27. STAUNTON STATE SCENIC RIVER, 11 miles through batteau sluices and wing dams of the Roanoke Navigation between Long Island and Brookneal. (Commonwealth of Virginia)*

28. ROANOKE CANAL LOCKS, foot of Rt. 48 in Roanoke Rapids, North Carolina. (Municipal)

13th Street Bridge at Reynolds Metals' Tidewater Connection Locks Park, Richmond

39. NEW RIVER GORGE NATIONAL RIVER, 50 miles from Hinton to Fayetteville along proposed route to JR&K. Canoeing; interpretation centers at Hinton and Fayetteville. (National Park Service)

40. NEW RIVER NAVIGATION STEAMBOAT SLUICES in the upper reaches of Bluestone Reservoir Public Hunting and Fishing Area. (Federal)

41. BIG SANDY LOCK AND DAM 3, intact lock and dam at Louisa KY-Fort Gay WV. (Municipal)

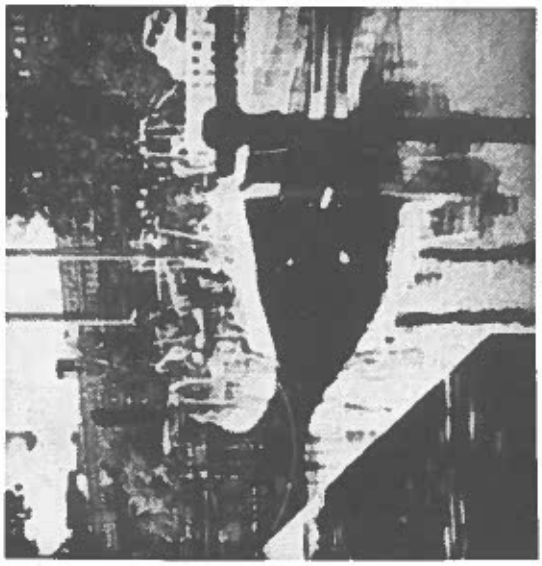
*Lands along these state scenic rivers are in private ownership.

Printed in U.S.A.

Plaque at westernmost lock on the JR&K, Botetourt County

Replica of a James River Batteau in the Patowmack Canal, Great Falls, VA on Canal Day

Deep Creek Lock at Dismal Swamp



Great Ship Lock Park, Richmond

You Are Invited to Join the

VIRGINIA CANALS & NAVIGATGIONS SOCIETY

"Dedicated to historical canal and river navigation research, restoration, and parks"

Name _____

Address _____

City/State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Special Int. _____

Dues apply to the calendar year and entitle members to all issues of THE TILLER for that year. Please make checks payable to "Virginia Canals & Navigations Society" or "VC&NS" and mail to VC&NS, c/o Lynn Howlett, Membership Chairman, 6826 Rosemont Drive, McLean, Virginia ~~22110.~~ 22101

*All dues and donations are tax deductible

Dues for Calendar Year 1995

Subject to Change

Single individual	$ 15.00
Couple or family (same address)	18.00
Sustaining member	25.00
Patron	60.00
Non-profit organization	18.00
Profit-making organization	35.00
Students, schools, libraries	6.00
Life membership: single	150.00
couple	200.00